NEWS RELEASE

08-053

Today's Date: Wednesday, June 04, 2008

District: 1

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PROJECT TO REPLACE MAD RIVER BRIDGES ON ROUTE 101 IN MCKINLEYVILLE MOVES FORWARD

Eureka – Caltrans announced today that California Transportation Commission voted to approve funding last week for the project to replace the Mad River Bridges on Route 101 in McKinleyville. A contractor is expected to be chosen by late summer, and construction is anticipated to begin spring 2009.

The existing bridges, built in 1929 and 1958, are nearing the end of their useful life. This project will provide new bridges with upgraded lighting, improved shoulders, and a multipurpose path on the east side of the northbound bridge. In addition, this project will improve the junction of Route 101 and Route 200 (also known as North Bank Road).

"This has been a much anticipated project for north coast communities that will make Route 101 safer for vehicles and bicyclists," said Richard Mullen, Project Manager.

In addition to the project to replace the Mad River Bridges, the California Transportation Commission also approved funding for the Alton Interchange Project at the junction of Routes 36 and 101. Construction on the Alton Interchange is also anticipated to begin in spring 2009.

For more information, please contact Richard Mullen at (707) 441-5877.

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